Executive Director Report May 22, 2008

Budget

- Invoices have been submitted to Commission member entities for member contributions to the Commission's budget for the 2007-2008 Fiscal Year. To date, approximately \$22,000 has been received. A portion of SACOG member contribution (\$1,500) has been received as in-kind fee waiver for facility use.
- \$35,000 has been received from Department of Water Resources (cumulative member contribution) to support initiation of Management Plan Update process. Contract with Center for Collaborative Policy in the amount of \$38,000 to facilitate process is in progress consistent with Commission action.
- Participated in Senate Budget Natural Resources Sub-committee Hearing recommending
 that the 2008-2009 Governor's Budget reflect reimbursements to the Commission's
 Budget from member contributions and a one-time transfer of funds from the Delta
 Advisory Planning Council Fund for a total budgetary enhancement of \$128,000.
 Received support from Department of Finance and Legislative Analyst Office.
- Contracts are in final stage of processing for award of grant funding for Lower Yolo Bypass Forum (\$14,750 to DPC as co-partner with Yolo Basin Foundation and Center for Collaborative Policy CSUS) and for Working Landscapes projects (\$45,000 to DPC as co-partner with Ducks Unlimited, The Nature Conservancy and Hart Restoration).
- Submitted grant application to Coastal Conservancy in the amount of \$770,000 for Delta Trail Planning (anticipate award consideration at September Conservancy Board meeting).
- Relative to funding support for Delta Trail planning: working with State Lands Commission staff to identify potential Trail link(s) in Carquinez Strait to qualify for funding support; preparing preliminary trail project proposals for grant application to Solano County supported by Kinder Morgan Settlement funds; and providing support to Contra Costa County relative to proposal to provide funding from the County to the Commission for Trail planning.

Legislation

The following legislation relevant to the Delta is being monitored by staff:

AB 1806 (Wolk) Fish and Wildlife Emergency Rescue (staff analysis – neutral);

AB 2501 (Wolk) Water Planning;

AB 2502 (Wolk) Delta Ecological Restoration and Recreation Areas (staff recommending position of support);

AB 2503 (Wolk) Delta Protection Commission Alternates (adopted support);

AB 2504 (DeSaulnier) Delta Tourism and Marketing Plan (staff recommending position of support);

AB 2913 (Salas) Delta Conservancy (staff analysis – neutral); and

AB 2938 (DeLeon) Water Diversions; Fish Entrainment; Screens.

SB 27 (Simitian) Delta Clean Drinking Water, Water Supply Security, and Environmental Improvement Act of 2008;

SB 1102 (Machado) Bay Delta Authority;

SB 1108 (Machado) Delta Conservancy Program (staff analysis – neutral); and

SB 1543 (Machado) Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta (DPC Executive Director Authority) (staff analysis – neutral).

Provided testimony to Assembly Natural Resources Committee as to consistency of AB 2504 with the Delta Protection Act and the policies of the Commission's Management Plan.

Projects/Facilitation

- Initiated Management Plan Update process to be facilitated by Center for Collaborative Policy. Stakeholder interviews and document review are underway.
- Facilitated meeting of the Delta Mercury Collaborative and coordinated efforts to prepare a letter from the Collaborative to the Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board relative to the Delta Mercury TMDL process. Provided the letter and testimony at hearing of the Board on the matter.
- Delta Emergency Planning and Response process co-facilitated by OES and DPC with support from Center for Collaborative Policy is moving forward with stakeholder interviews and gap analyses of existing plans.
- Initiated Lower Yolo Bypass Forum process, including personal interview invites to stakeholders to participate in process.
- Served as co-team lead for the Delta Vision Delta as Place Work Plan Group, including the development of strategies relative to emergency planning and response, Delta Trail, and Ag easement program, and provided updates to the Blue Ribbon Task Force.
- Participated as member of Delta Vision Governance and Strategic Funding Work Plan Group.
- Coordinating with Public Utilities Commission to assure utility representation and coordination with Commission and Delta Vision activities. Assisted in facilitation of utilities workshop.
- Made presentation about the Delta Protection Act and the policies of the Commission's Management Plan, with a focus on infrastructure, to the State Highway 12 Advisory Council initiated and facilitated by the Solano Transportation Agency.
- Prepared white paper pursuant to discussions of the Delta Agricultural Conservation Easement Group and submitted concept to Delta Vision Delta as Place Work Plan Group.
- Provided overview of National Heritage Corridor Concept as tool for branding Delta legacy towns to Delta Vision Delta as Place Work Plan Group and to the Blue Ribbon Task Force. Initiating preliminary steps for applying for designation (pending Commission approval).

 Coordinating planning and facilitation of Delta Resources Conservation and Development Council meetings with a focus on seeking national status and funding support.

Public Affairs/Outreach

- Made presentation to the Solano County Board of Supervisors to provide information about the Commission's Management Plan Update, Emergency Planning and Response, and Lower Yolo Bypass Forum processes.
- Participated in facilitation and hosting of Delta Emergency Planning and Response Open House Workshop in the Delta.
- Made a presentation at the Ag Leadership Conference sponsored by University of California, Davis.
- Participated as an exhibitor at the Great Valley Center Conference.
- Provided assistance to the Discover the Delta Foundation relative to developing a "state collaborative" exhibit for the Discovery Center planned for future construction.
- Met with Coastal Conservancy staff to discuss partnership opportunities.
- Met with California Volunteer Commission staff to discuss opportunities for partnerships.
- Participated in Resources Agency Department Head meetings.
- Participated in Resources Agency PIO Team meetings.
- Participated in Resources Agency Climate Change discussion meetings.